

profess, and attending to a multitude of engineering jobs of a miscellaneous character. Lieut. C. H. Suter, of the Engineer corps, and Captain Croset, of Serrill's Engineers, have been constantly on duty, rendering efficient service and contributing greatly to the progress of the siege.

The regiments of infantry which furnished the working parties during siege operations have borne themselves throughout the campaign with great credit. They have been on duty day after day and night and night, and often without arms in their hands, under the fire of the enemy. The Fourth and Seventh New Hampshire, the Ninth Maine and the Fifty-fourth Massachusetts, comprise the troops which have been most conspicuous in the duty, though nearly every regiment of the command has contributed more or less troops to the building of the batteries.

OUR TROOPS AND WHAT THEY DO.

Special credit is due to the one Hundredth New York Volunteers, Colonel Flanders, the First New Hampshire Volunteers, Capt. Root, and the Eighth and Twenty-third Vermont Landwehr Corps, Passaic (recently killed), for their services as the special guard of the advanced trenches. Since the beginning of the siege they have been exclusively on this duty, and the fact that they have lost nearly one-half of their numbers within the past month shows how perilous has been their task.

In this letter I have attempted to convey some idea of the labors performed by the army. Their work was complicated when Sumner was reduced to a foot-camp. Why the operation of this island, surrounded as it was on three sides by water of a navigable depth, has not been taken by the iron-clads, is a question I am unable to answer. If he had been taken, Admiral Fisher may in his own good time give it to the public.

MR. OSGOOD G. SAWYER'S DESPATCH.

MORRIS ISLAND, S. C., Sept. 5, 1862.

OPERATIONS SINCE THE FOURTH INST.

The comparative quiet which has for some time reigned on Morris Island has given way to operations of the most active and stirring character, and the rebels are now rapidly pushed to the west, so far as they are within General Gillmore's reach. It looks to-day as though we might reasonably expect the reduction of Morris Island within forty-eight hours. The progress of our operations is favorable to our arms, and, at twenty-four, I have but little time to detail the operations since the 4th inst., as a steamer unexpectedly goes North in a short time.

LAFAYETTE OF ORIN, MILITARY MARINE.

On Friday night one of the navy's flotilla of launches cutters doing duty between Charleston and Battery Gregg was fortunate enough to take a valuable prize. It has recently been the duty of the armed navy boats to cruise at night in the waters above Morris Island, to cut off communications and supplies from Charleston to Gregg and Wagner, and to prevent, if possible, the relief of the rebel garrison on the Skadsawie of the Pamlico. This was accomplished by the Skadsawie flotilla of that night, was obtained near Fort Sumner instead of Friday night, and while sweeping a waterway on all points of approach, despoiled a boat coming from Cummings' Point, and pulling towards them, a vessel to Charleston. Preparations were instantly made to capture it. The men were sent to quarters, and the boatmen trained upon the rapidly advancing boat, in order to give battle if it should prove to be an armed one. It came quickly on, and was permitted to approach by Lieutenant Ellington to within pistol shot, when he charged it. It is a boat, indeed. To his lack of what I call that the response came, "Ready, aye, ready, aye." This is General Ripley's cargo. "Well, then,

We just the how we wait for you out of water. You
 moment of the character of our boat, the carmen of
 the rebel boat gave two or three quick shots ahead of
 to escape. A volley of musketry was fired over their
 heads, which brought them to the launch shot pulled
 up to the rebels, and an officer in the stern sheets and
 surrendered. One or two of the rebel carmen jumped
 from the boat and were about to attempt to escape by
 swimming, but upon being warned that if they did not
 return to the boat they would be shot, they relinquished
 their idea of gaining their liberty and quietly went back
 to their boat, and were hailed in as well as dressed rear.
 The boat was taken possession of by Lieutenant Higgin-
 son, when it was found that we had taken some im-
 portant persons. One of the officers cast out was
 Major Lally, chief of artillery, on General Ellice's staff,
 who had been wounded in the foot by a fragment of shell
 while in Wagner on Friday. He was on his way to
 Charleston in charge of Assistant Surgeon (Major), re-
 bel army, when taken. Both the Doctor and the
 Major accepted their fate in good spirits and complained
 not. The crew of ten men and the coxswain were em-
 ployed in the Quartermaster's Department and are citi-
 zens of Charleston. They were all brought in, and the
 Major and surgeon placed in the hospital on parole, while
 the others were put under guard at the Provost Marshal's
 office. It is thought that the rebels are trying to get
 their prison boats, and pointed directly for it, dis-
 covering that it was a boat of the Yankee fleet.
 The large token was seen and by General Ellice, his
 own movements about the bay, it is a beautiful
 pulling ten cars, and makes a very valuable asset to
 our stock of boats. The volley of musketry fired
 capturing the boat creates some excitement among the
 rebels. It was so far up the harbor that it actually in-
 duced them to believe that some big ship was being
 played by the "white Yankees." Signal rockets began to
 go up from Sumter, Johnson and Gregg, and colored
 lights were fired and fluted about the harbor. Guns
 were opened and shot began to fly out all over the
 game was haggard, and the sportsmen safely on
 his way home.
 THE BOMBARDMENT OF FORT WAGNER.
 In accordance with an order given the previous day
 fire was opened on Fort Wagner from all our batteries
 breaching and defensive, yesterday morning at daylight.
 The naval battery, which could not well fire upon Wa-
 gner, directed its guns towards Battery Gregg. The fire
 from our batteries was rapid and effective, and the re-
 bels being ordered, we poured into that work a stream
 of shot and shrapnel never before brought to bear upon
 any rebel battery. The result was most successful.
 Our heavy rifle projectiles ploughed through the
 parapets of the rebel work and plunged deeply into the
 covering of the huge bombproof, where they exploded, and
 threw high up fire-fumes quantities of sand. The fire
 was at short range and very accurate. Not one shot
 of ten failed to be effective. At times two or three shells
 would strike together, and the gleams of fire, the columns
 of smoke, and the tones and clatter that shot quickly up,
 then rolled off in dingy clouds, gave the immense
 mound covering the bombproof an appearance not unlike
 that of a miniature volcano in full eruption. The rebels
 attempted to make some change in the early morning
 the bombardment, and for a while fired rapidly and suc-
 cessfully their canister and grape, shrapnel and shells, but
 they could not stand to their guns. The fort became
 like a hell with the fire of exploding shells, and terrible
 death awaited the bold spirits who dared to face the
 guns. In half an hour the fort became silent. Not a shot
 was again fired from it during the day, and not a rebel
 being showed himself above the parapet, or indeed be-
 side the bombproof.
 THE BOMBARDMENT CONTINUED.
 Early in the morning the noble frigate New Ire-
 land steamed up to a position off the fort and opened its
 batteries to make good the work. Her practice was most
 excellent and her fire was very accurate. In the course
 eleven high shells were in the air or exploding within the
 fort at once. Such a display of fire was never kept up
 before. From daylight until dark her guns were a
 full play, and Wagner smoked like a cypress from the
 bursting shells.
 The joint bombardment was continued until night be-
 came and made objects indistinguishable. The effect of
 fire upon the fort was marvellous. The great mound
 of sand under which the garrison found safe
 was ploughed down by the furrowing shot. At least
 eight feet of earth was ploughed off by the infernal fire,
 and the parapets were knocked down, the guns discom-
 posed, the batteries were destroyed, the fort was re-
 cognized. All its lines seemed to be detected, and
 presented the appearance of an irregular mass of sa-
 bags without form or shape. It was apparent that
 another day's fire would expose the timbers of the bomb-
 proof, and then its destruction would be but the work
 of an hour. Once crumbled it ceases to be tenable, and the
 garrison must evacuate it or be torn to pieces by
 bursting shells and flying shrapnel. If the rebels could
 be prevented from repairing damages during the night
 our success to-day was pretty nearly beyond a doubt.
 REMARKS OF AN ENEMY.
 At dark all but one of our batteries ceased firing.
 Two heavy rifles and seven mortars, we still in play, and continued their fire during the night.
 Professor Grant's column lights were placed so
 forward, and threw upon the breach of the bombproof
 brilliant streams of light, which made every part of
 the rebel works plainly and clearly defined, as it could
 be under the full rays of the moonday sun. Not a sound
 could have made a move on that furrowed mound at
 escape detection. Our guns were easily aimed, and
 a rebel, it is said, made his appearance near the water
 during the entire night. Indeed, to have done so would
 have been a suicidal move, in order to escape the shell-
 ing rain in our adversaries' rifle and mortar fire. The
 firing of the night was very accurate, and considerable
 about the size of the bombproof.
 THE BOMBARDMENT OF SUMTER.
 This morning at daylight all our batteries again
 opened upon Wagner, and the firing is now going on as
 vigorously. Before seven o'clock all the Mound of
 the trenches took up position in line before the rebel
 work, and began their work of shrapnel. Up to this
 time, our guns have been firing rapidly and with effect.
 Not a gun has been replied to by the rebels since
 the attack, though the batteries of James and Sumter
 attack, as it is full blown. The rebels are firing in front of
 the bombproof, which is covered with twenty feet of sand
 and the work is going on most extensively as it is
 we think that we will have in a tight place, if
 it is not soon to be justified any more turn at its
 result. But I can say we are all hopeful. The attack
 over the remainder of our operations to the North.
 REMARKS OF AN ENEMY.
 The naval battery has been directed against the
 side by one of two guns of his own caliber than those used
 by the big jackets, only three or four. It is not
 fired shot yesterday noon, and shows that it too has
 experienced no small amount of shrapnel. The par-
 apet and bombproof are well exposed, and the rebels
 was quite exposed, which I saw a breach in the bomb-
 proof yesterday afternoon. Whether it actually ac-
 cident is not so certain. At all events we can reach
 when we finish Wagner, in short order. The condition
 the rebels on this island is not of the most comfort-
 character. They cannot find a place outside the
 bombproof where they can be at all safe. The
 heat to-day is intense, and the sufferings
 the rebels, exposed up, as they are, in the
 close shelters, sweltering in the terrible heat of the
 black haze, and deprived of fresh air, must be most
 torturing. We city men, we are trying, but it is only
 mation by which they are to be killed, and what is a
 wonder, they will not do the job yet. But they will
 eventually come to it. Besides, they have not their water
 men that obtained from wells dug in the sand about
 them, in the old Quartermaster's burying ground. No more
 water comes from Charleston to them and no more ex-
 plosion.
 As I close the firing from our batteries and from the
 iron-cannon in rapid and intense, and will be maintained
 until a result is reached.
 WORD OF TRUTH.
 A double-plated, side-wheel, City-built steamer can-
 dard yesterday afternoon from the harbor, with a large
 cargo at her side, and of Fort Mifflin, and
 from from the New England, with a white flag, pulled up
 to her, and communicated with her. What the nature
 of the communication was not ascertained. If it is an
 offer of surrender to the naval authorities, as is im-
 plied, it is a great step towards the end of the
 rebellion has been received on shore.
 THE END.
 The rebels in Wagner have been so thoroughly hun-
 tled and depressed by our terrible bombardment that
 they do not show a hair of their heads. Their sharp
 shooters are as silent as dogs. Not a rifle has been
 fired since yesterday morning, four men in the front
 shot themselves on the parapet and killed
 with the shot and shrapnel. Within a half
 hour the rebels are all dead. As yet no
 have been, and the rebel shot and the shot
 have been so thoroughly
 THE END.
 THE BOMBARDMENT OF SUMTER.
 The bombardment of Sumter was continued
 yesterday afternoon, and the firing is now going on as
 vigorously. Before seven o'clock all the Mound of
 the trenches took up position in line before the rebel
 work, and began their work of shrapnel. Up to this
 time, our guns have been firing rapidly and with effect.
 Not a gun has been replied to by the rebels since
 the attack, though the batteries of James and Sumter
 attack, as it is full blown. The rebels are firing in front of
 the bombproof, which is covered with twenty feet of sand
 and the work is going on most extensively as it is
 we think that we will have in a tight place, if
 it is not soon to be justified any more turn at its
 result. But I can say we are all hopeful. The attack
 over the remainder of our operations to the North.
 REMARKS OF AN ENEMY.
 The naval battery has been directed against the
 side by one of two guns of his own caliber than those used
 by the big jackets, only three or four. It is not
 fired shot yesterday noon, and shows that it too has
 experienced no small amount of shrapnel. The par-
 apet and bombproof are well exposed, and the rebels
 was quite exposed, which I saw a breach in the bomb-
 proof yesterday afternoon. Whether it actually ac-
 cident is not so certain. At all events we can reach
 when we finish Wagner, in short order. The condition
 the rebels on this island is not of the most comfort-
 character. They cannot find a place outside the
 bombproof where they can be at all safe. The
 heat to-day is intense, and the sufferings
 the rebels, exposed up, as they are, in the
 close shelters, sweltering in the terrible heat of the
 black haze, and deprived of fresh air, must be most
 torturing. We city men, we are trying, but it is only
 mation by which they are to be killed, and what is a
 wonder, they will not do the job yet. But they will
 eventually come to it. Besides, they have not their water
 men that obtained from wells dug in the sand about
 them, in the old Quartermaster's burying ground. No more
 water comes from Charleston to them and no more ex-
 plosion.
 As I close the firing from our batteries and from the
 iron-cannon in rapid and intense, and will be maintained
 until a result is reached.
 WORD OF TRUTH.
 A double-plated, side-wheel, City-built steamer can-
 dard yesterday afternoon from the harbor, with a large
 cargo at her side, and of Fort Mifflin, and
 from from the New England, with a white flag, pulled up
 to her, and communicated with her. What the nature
 of the communication was not ascertained. If it is an
 offer of surrender to the naval authorities, as is im-
 plied, it is a great step towards the end of the
 rebellion has been received on shore.
 THE END.
 The rebels in Wagner have been so thoroughly hun-
 tled and depressed by our terrible bombardment that
 they do not show a hair of their heads. Their sharp
 shooters are as silent as dogs. Not a rifle has been
 fired since yesterday morning, four men in the front
 shot themselves on the parapet and killed
 with the shot and shrapnel. Within a half
 hour the rebels are all dead. As yet no
 have been, and the rebel shot and the shot
 have been so thoroughly
 THE END.
 THE BOMBARDMENT OF SUMTER.
 The bombardment of Sumter was continued
 yesterday afternoon, and the firing is now going on as
 vigorously. Before seven o'clock all the Mound of
 the trenches took up position in line before the rebel
 work, and began their work of shrapnel. Up to this
 time, our guns have been firing rapidly and with effect.
 Not a gun has been replied to by the rebels since
 the attack, though the batteries of James and Sumter
 attack, as it is full blown. The rebels are firing in front of
 the bombproof, which is covered with twenty feet of sand
 and the work is going on most extensively as it is
 we think that we will have in a tight place, if
 it is not soon to be justified any more turn at its
 result. But I can say we are all hopeful. The attack
 over the remainder of our operations to the North.
 REMARKS OF AN ENEMY.
 The naval battery has been directed against the
 side by one of two